

Discovery Awaits at NWDC's Summer Camps!



**NATURE  
& WILDLIFE**  
DISCOVERY  
CENTER

# NATURE CAMP HANDBOOK



Mountain Campus  
9112 Mountain Park Rd  
Beulah, Colorado 81023

River Campus  
5200 Nature Center Rd  
Pueblo CO, 81003



Accepting grades K-10. Scholarships are available during registration!

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## Our Mission

NWDC is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Our mission is to promote environmental stewardship and community health through nature education, wildlife rehabilitation, and outdoor recreation.

## Our Vision

We envision thriving urban, rural, and wildlife ecosystems in Southern Colorado that foster a resilient connection between people and planet.

## Core Values

- Equitable access to nature experiences
- Connect with community
- Preserve and restore nature
- Collaborate with partners
- Inspire future generations
- Encourage learning

# Program Philosophy

Our primary goal at NWDC is to create an atmosphere in which each camper and staff member builds care and love for nature and themselves while learning something new about wildlife rehabilitation and outdoor recreation. We want campers and staff to return to NWDC year after year to achieve this goal, as well as other goals relating to a child's growth and development. It is most important to point all efforts at camp toward creating a safe, enjoyable, challenging, educational, and fun experience. This experience should be filled with opportunities for everyone.

Research shows that children who spend time in nature pay attention better, think more clearly, and can cope more effectively with stress. We aim to foster a sense of wonder, to guide rather than compel, and to provide room for possibility rather than attempt to constrain camper's interests to fit within a certain curriculum. Our goal is to create an ideal setting for campers in grades kindergarten to 10th, to grow into citizens of the world, with a respect for all cultures and environments and the desire to engage with their communities.



## *At NWDC we will...*

- Promote social skills and positive self-image through group play and cooperative learning.
- Develop activities that encourage cognitive growth, problem-solving skills, and development of physical motor skills.
- Encourage problem-solving and reflection by asking open-ended questions and providing information in response to children's ideas, insights, and concerns.
- Provide a supportive and safe learning environment to encourage discovery, questioning, and experimentation.
- Cultivate emotional literacy and empathy to develop self-esteem.
- Nurture self-expression, creativity, and reflection.
- Celebrate the diversity of all living things and the individuality of children and families.
- Instill respect and appreciation for the natural world.

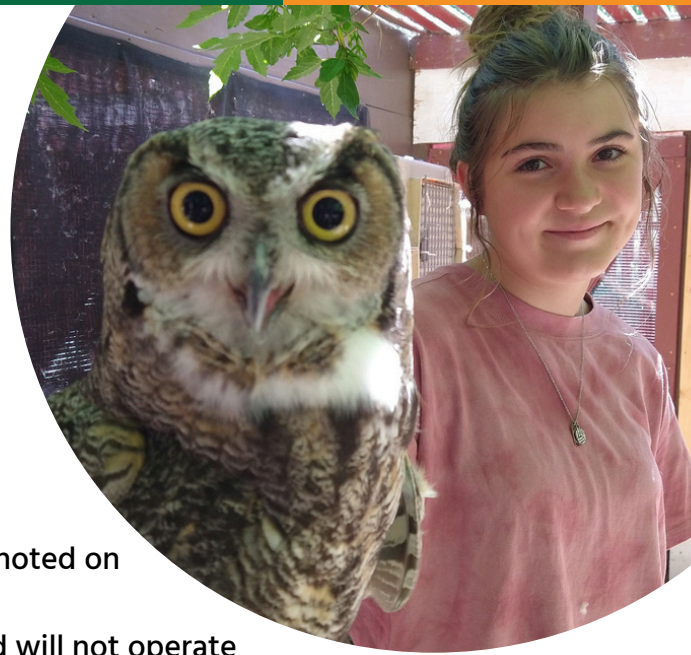
**It is our business to care for your child. To do this properly, we must work together. It is important that you familiarize yourself with the NWDC's Policies and Procedures for the Summer Day and Overnight Camp Programs. Your cooperation and understanding are essential for our quality programs to run effortlessly.**

**Please take the time to read the following material carefully. Thank you!**



## DAY CAMPS

- Quality day camp programs are offered to children entering Kindergarten- 10th grade. Please note that all children must be fully potty-trained and out of diapers before they participate in camp.
- Day camps operate Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
  - Child drop-off is between 8:50 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. at the NWDC River Campus Main Building.
  - Child pick-up is at 3:00 p.m. at the NWDC River Campus Main Building (depending on the camp and/or otherwise noted on specific camp parent/guardian letters).
  - Camps will run in 1-week sessions during June-August, and will not operate on major holidays.



## OVERNIGHT CAMPS

- Quality overnight camp programs are offered to children entering 5th-10th grade.
  - Overnight camps operate either from Monday – Wednesday or Tuesday – Thursday, for a maximum of three days and two nights. Some camps will include one extra “preparedness” day, depending on the type of camp.
  - Child drop-off is between 8:20 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. at the NWDC Raptor Center parking lot.
  - Child pick-up is at 3:00 p.m. at the NWDC Raptor Center parking lot.
  - Camps will run in 3 day/2 night sessions during June – August, and will not operate on major holidays.



Photo: Mission Wolf

## CAMP REGISTRATION

- All registrations are on a first-come, first-served basis.
  - Any registrations after 3 p.m. on the Wednesday before the first day of camp will be considered late, and space cannot be guaranteed.
  - If a camp fills, you will be added to the waitlist.
- Camp registration payment is due in FULL at the time of registration, unless you are completing a scholarship application.
  - A \$50 deposit is required for scholarship applications.
  - Any remaining balance on your account is due in full 1 week before the start of camp.

Register your child at [www.hikeandlearn.org](http://www.hikeandlearn.org)





## CANCELATION POLICY

- If we cancel, you will receive a 100% refund
- Cancellations made within 15-30 days before the first day of the camp will be fully refundable, minus a \$10.00 deposit.
- Cancellations made within 7-14 days before the camp start date will forfeit 50% of the total cost of camp.
- We cannot give any refund when there is a cancellation 0-7 days before the camp start date. Thank you for your understanding of our cancellation policies.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- NWDC has partial summer camp scholarships available. For more information, visit our website: [www.hikeandlearn.org](http://www.hikeandlearn.org) or call our office at 719-485-4444
- Fee Schedule:
- Payment is due in full before your child starts camp. If you owe a remaining balance you will be given an individual invoice that will state your current balance two weeks before the start of your child's camp.
- Returned checks: If your check is returned, your registration is canceled.

## STAFF OPENING AND CLOSING PROCEDURES

- NWDC Morning Staff Inspection of rooms and property for any acquired overnight debris or hazards.
- Pre-trip inspection of any camp vehicle must take place 30 minutes before the participant's scheduled arrival time.
- Set up any necessary program materials, put out sign-in/out forms, and review the day's itinerary and participant attendance sheets.
- Staff ready to greet parents/guardians upon the start of the program.
- At the end of the day close all rooms and lock doors, check bathrooms and hallways for any children, and make sure that any children that are being picked up from the NWDC have been signed out and picked up.
- For all of the children being transported back to the Raptor Center, make sure that they are loaded and accounted for in the vehicle.
- Never leave until all children have been signed out. If parents/guardians are late, review the late charge policy with them.



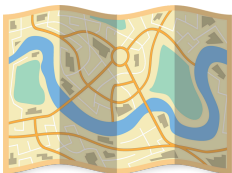
# NWDC ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR CAMP STAFF INFORMATION

We want you to have complete confidence that your child will have an adventurous and SAFE experience with NWDC rangers. All summer camp rangers are qualified, trained recreation professionals, and are:

- CPR/First Aid certified (Some with Wilderness First Aid Certification)
- Certified in 15+ hours of universal precautions and child development training.
- Certified in medication administration.
- Trained in 15 passenger van transportation.
- Experienced in working with youth in school and/or a summer camp setting.



**Every NWDC ranger will be prepared with the USFS-recommended 10 essentials!**



**Map:**  
A printed map. You can't count on cell phone coverage in remote areas.



**Sun Protection:**  
Hat, sunglasses & sunscreen.



**Extra Clothing:**  
Layers of clothing that are not cotton. This way you can regulate your temperature if the weather shifts.



**Clipboard with Camper Information:**  
Your Ranger will keep a daily attendance list and will take head counts every hour.



**Backpack:**  
To carry all of the essential items.

**Picnic Lunch:**  
Plus extra snacks!



**First Aid Kit**



**Emergency Items:**  
flashlight & whistle, fire starter , etc.



**Radio:**  
To communicate with other staff.



**Water Bottle:**  
We need to drink lots of water to stay hydrated.



**Appropriate Footwear:**  
wearing sturdy footwear that can withstand the terrain and the length of your trip.

Please note that this page is not meant to be a checklist for your camper. This is simply information provided to you so you know your child will be safe with NWDC staff.



## DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP

Colorado State Licensing services require that your child be accompanied during the drop-off and pick-up process to the program by an authorized adult.

- The authorized person **MUST** sign the participant in and out every day.
- No one under the age of 18 is allowed to sign a child in or out of the program.
- Program staff are not allowed to be authorized pick-up persons.
- Children will only be released to those listed on the “authorized pick up” form. You may be asked for your ID when you pick up a child.
- Unauthorized individuals will not be allowed to have children released to them.



If you arrive late to Drop-off, Please call the office at 719-485-4444 as soon as you can to let them know you are late but coming. Once there, go to the office to have them find your child’s group. You must wait with your child until they are reunited with their group and you sign them in. If your child is signed up for an overnight camp that is at an offsite location (i.e Mission: Wolf) and you arrive after they have departed, we will do what we can to reunite the group so long as it is not going to negatively impact the camp experience of the other participants.

## LATE PICK-UP

If a child is not picked up from the program 15 minutes past the scheduled pick-up time, camp staff will attempt to call parents/guardians and emergency contacts. If you are aware that you are going to be late, please call the camp staff and notify them.

- NWDC will charge a fee of \$15 for every 15 minutes after the first 15 minutes.
  - i.e.: If pick-up is at 3:00, parent/guardian will be charged \$15 if the camper is picked up later than 3:15 pm, and another \$15 after 3:30 pm.
- This charge must be paid before the child returns to the program.
- If camp staff have been unable to make contact with the child’s parent/guardian or emergency contacts, we after 1 hour will contact the police department and the child will be released to them.

Camp staff will remain at NWDC until all children are picked up by a guardian or turned over to the police department.

## UNAUTHORIZED PICK-UP

UNAUTHORIZED CHILD PICK-UP POLICY STATES ANY PERSON ATTEMPTING TO PICK UP A CHILD ENROLLED IN OUR PROGRAM MUST BE ON THE CHILD’S AUTHORIZATION/EMERGENCY FORM OR HAS TO BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING ON AN AUTHORIZATION REQUEST FORM. A CHILD WILL NOT BE RELEASED TO ANY ADULT WHO IS NOT LISTED ON THE AUTHORIZATION FORM.



## GUIDANCE & PROCEDURES

We promote peaceful conflict resolution and encourage children to learn, problem-solve, and make positive choices on their own. We strive to create an environment where children are safe and where they know they will be cared for and listened to, not just by NWDC Staff, but by one another as well.

To minimize conflict, much effort is taken to provide:

- Appropriate activities
- Create an inviting environment
- Meet the individual needs of children

Still, conflicts are a natural occurrence as children try to relate to one another in a group setting. Many techniques are used for assisting children through conflict resolution. Although our interactions vary depending on the age of the children and the severity of the situation, all means seek to guide children as problem solvers.

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### The following techniques are used regularly by our staff:

- **Identifying/Interpreting-** "You both want the truck." Such a simple statement can clarify the problem, diffuse tension, and help the problem-solving begin. Children also need help to consider other's emotions or needs especially when they are upset themselves. For example, "Look, he is crying. It hurt when you kicked him."
- **Validating Feelings-** Constructive thinking is virtually impossible when a child is overcome by an emotion such as anger, sadness, fear, or frustration. Acknowledging the emotion is imperative before any other learning can occur. "I will not let you hit her. Tell me why you are so angry." All children in a conflict must be honestly listened to. Children are not told to say "I'm sorry," but rather, to actively comfort or offer help to the child they hurt/upset. Adults may say, "I'm sorry you got hurt" and at some point, children will spontaneously do the same.
- **Giving Choices/Offering solutions-** Adults offer choices and possible solutions to children who are having a difficult time finding them on their own. Some options given are negotiating and collaboration.
- **Redirection-** A request to stop a negative behavior is accompanied by a suggestion for an appropriate behavior with which to replace it..."You may not throw rocks, if you'd like you may stack them or make a wall."
- **Natural Consequences-** Consequences for behavior are those that are logical to children. "If you are not able to stop throwing the sand, then you will need to come out of the sandbox." When children can understand the results of their behavior they are better able to modify it.
- **Limit Setting-** For children to build trusting relationships and feel confident to explore, they must know what is expected of them. Rules are kept few, basic, clear, and concise. Boundaries and expectations expand in keeping with the abilities of the children.
- **Consistency-** So that children know what to expect (and from that can anticipate, predict, and change their behavior accordingly), limits and expectations are consistent throughout the classrooms. All adults respond consistently to conflict situations.
- **Tone-** The message a child receives from an adult intervening is: you are safe, the situation is under control, and we can work it out. A firm, kind, serious tone with a relaxed demeanor reinforces this message.
- **Modeling-** The adults in the center set an example of compassionate, caring individuals who can express their feelings and needs clearly and calmly.
- **Passive Intervention-** Children are given time to work through their problems. If a situation does not escalate to destructive or aggressive behavior, staff may choose to simply observe as the children seek a solution, or their presence can serve as a gentle reminder to use words instead of action. Staff trust children to 'figure it out' but are there to help if they should need it. When additional intervention is necessary to facilitate the resolution process, it is as non-intrusive as possible.
- **Physical Intervention-** Children will be physically stopped when hurting each other. The focus will then turn to resolving the conflict at hand.





## BEHAVIORAL AND DISCIPLINE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

If a child needs time to calm down, staff facilitate this in a non-punitive manner by helping children find a way to calm themselves. For our older participants, they are offered a chance to take space if they need it. Space is always taken within view of the group, and is a choice that the individual makes, they also decide when they would like to come back to the group. If a child has taken space for more than 5 minutes and has not come back on their own, a staff member will go over to them and check on them.

**To provide a fun and safe environment for your child while participating in summer programming, the following discipline procedures have been established for misbehavior:**

- Step 1 – A staff will attempt to resolve the misbehavior by utilizing some of the steps above.
- Step 2 – Staff will conduct a report in written form explaining the unacceptable behavior.
- Step 3 – A second report is written and parents/guardians are notified of their child's performance.
- Step 4 – Parents/guardians will be called and asked to pick their child up from the program.

If at any point an NWDC staff member or a child's parents/guardians decide that the child should be withdrawn from the program the Program Director will be involved with notifying all the necessary parties.

\*While NWDC staff will do all they can to resolve any conflict and or misbehavior, we reserve the right to suspend or remove any child at any time for situations that involve fighting, hitting, threatening, stealing, equipment abuse, or carrying weapons. The parent/guardian will be notified immediately. If your child is suspended or removed from our program, there are no refunds.



# IMPORTANT HEALTH FORMS AND POLICIES

Colorado State Licensing requires that every participant must have the following completed forms on file at the program location by or on the first day of the program. All of these forms are included in the “NWDC Summer Camp Required Forms Packet”.

- Authorization and Emergency Information
  - Current Medical Information and Immunization Records from your child’s primary health care provider.
    - Immunization-exempt children may be allowed into the program; Parents/Guardians must submit supplemental documentation to the program director that is signed by an authorized provider. Please contact the Program Director if this applies to your child. In the occurrence of a communicable disease outbreak, the child may be requested not to attend the program during the contagious time.
  - An additional health history completed by a parent/ guardian is requested to help Ranger staff become better acquainted with your child.
  - Additional liability waivers and permission slips depending on the camp your child is signed up for
  - Forms **MUST** be complete. A child with incomplete forms will not be permitted into the program.
- \*A first aid kit will be kept on site with each lead ranger staff carrying their travel kit.



## DAILY HEALTH EVALUATION

- During check-in, staff will perform a head temperature check. This check considers the health and safety of all campers. If any health concerns arise, the camper will be sent home for treatment. Campers are welcome to return when the health concerns are addressed. For more serious cases (i.e. severe illness) Campers will not be readmitted to camp without a note from a physician.
- Should your child become ill at camp, your child will be supervised in the office, to minimize exposure to well children. We will call you immediately, and your child will need to be taken home by you or someone on your authorized pick-up list within one hour of the call.
- If there is a disagreement with the center's decision to send the child home, the parents/guardians will need verification from a physician stating that the child is not contagious and is well enough to take part in the program.
- Staff appreciate knowing if your child is undergoing any unusual or traumatic experiences that might affect their behavior at camp. This information allows staff to better meet the needs of your child during camp hours.



# CHILD ILLNESS, ACCIDENTS, AND INJURIES



In the event of a participant's illness, accident, or injury, a parent/guardian will be contacted to pick up their child while the child is made comfortable and isolated from the other campers.

To protect the health of children, families, and staff, NWDC adheres to the following policies.

Children will be sent home from camp if:

- They have a temperature of 101 or above.
- They have three loose stools or more during the day OR diarrhea is causing "accidents" for toilet-trained children.
- They vomit once (and it was not caused by coughing, crying, or motion).
- They are suspected to have a contagious illness due to symptoms such as rash, (which may include blisters, raised bumps, or lesions), sore throat, or red/discharging eyes).
- They are not well enough to participate in all aspects of the day.
- If the child visits a doctor we require that they only return to the program with written permission from their medical provider.
- If a child requires medical attention while on a trip/excursion parents/guardians will be notified immediately.

Please notify the center immediately if your child has a contagious illness such as strep throat, pinworms, impetigo, conjunctivitis, measles, mumps, whooping cough, staph infection, chicken pox, hand, foot and mouth disease, or head lice. We will notify all parents/guardians if children have been exposed to a contagious illness while at the center (keeping the name of the ill child confidential).

## MEDICATION POLICY



To administer medication the Colorado Department of Human Services requires the following that all summer programming will adhere to:

- Medication must be in a prescription bottle with a prescription label from the physician (including asthma inhalers).
- Over-the-counter medication must be provided with a permission slip from the child's physician listing the appropriate dosage.
- Additional forms are REQUIRED for any medication that will be given and must be signed by the child's health care provider. This also includes health care plans for severe allergies and asthma. A medication record log is kept at all times.
- At no time is the child to possess any prescription or over-the-counter medication.
- All medication will be stored in a locked container and administered only by trained staff.

## PARTICIPANT ACCOUNTABILITY

- Our first and foremost priority is the safety of your child while participating in our outdoor programs this summer.
- All camp staff are provided with and required to wear staff name tags for easy identification.
- We will always remain in a 1:10 (or less) adult-to-child ratio for the duration of the camp.
- Attendance is taken every day, Please let the camp director know if your child will be absent from the program.
- Camp staff will carry clipboards with a daily attendance list and will take head counts every hour.
- In the event of a lost child, parents/guardians will be notified while camp staff begin a search for the child. Police will be contacted after a thorough search is performed. Staff will continue to search for the child until the child is found or police arrive.



## TRAVEL/TRANSPORTATION

- Camp-specific: Both of our day and overnight camps will be using NWDC's vehicles.
- Participants will be transported in our vehicles daily to and from NWDC campuses and offsite locations depending upon camp schedule and transportation needs. There will always be two staff members in the vehicle. Staff members are required to have a working cell phone for in-transit communication.
- Participants are not allowed to sit in the passenger seat of our 15-passenger van and must always have a seatbelt on.
- Participants are not allowed to stand up or move around while the vehicle is in motion.
- Participants will depart and return to the same location for pick-up and drop-off.
- **If your camp involves transportation in our 15-passenger van we will need an additional permission slip form for authorized travel.**



## VISITORS AND VOLUNTEERS

- For all visitors who want to visit the campers, they must go to the office and a visitor form must be filled out which includes name, address, date, and purpose of visit.
- Please contact the Camp Director if you plan on visiting the program. Visitors must give a 24-hour notice before visiting the program.
- Volunteers must apply, be at least 15 years of age, and pass a CBI background check. They will not be considered part of the staff-to-child ratio and will be under the direct supervision of the camp director and program leaders.



## SNACKS & FOOD

- Participants in our day camps are expected to bring their own lunches and snacks.
- Please notify the Camp Director of any dietary restrictions your child may have.
- Children will not be allowed to share their snacks and lunches with any other camper.
- Water coolers will be prepared daily for your child to refill a water bottle.
- We only provide meals and snacks to our overnight camps. We do not provide meals or snacks to our day camps. All food preparation and service are performed by state-certified food handlers.
- We always attempt to use foods that are produced in Colorado and grown organically, which is subject to availability. We prefer to prepare an eclectic diet of whole grains, vegetables, and fruits with multiple choices at each meal.



## PERSONAL ITEMS

- The Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center is not responsible for any lost or stolen personal belongings during camp hours; this includes money.
- No item representing a weapon is allowed.
- Participants are encouraged to bring a backpack to carry personal belongings for the day.

## SUN PROTECTION

- A parent/guardian must fill out a permission slip to use the camp-provided sunscreen.
- Program Staff are not allowed to apply sunscreen directly on the child, but will supervise the application for all campers.
- If you wish to provide sunscreen for your child, it must be labeled with the child's first and last name.

## TELEVISION/VIDEO VIEWING

- Written authorization from a parent/guardian must be signed in advance for any child to view movies at camp.
- We will notify you if a movie is going to be shown during your child's camp and children will always be actively supervised.





## CHILD ABUSE AND CHILD CARE CONCERNS

We make every effort to provide a safe and healthy environment for your child. As child care providers, any staff person who has reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect shall immediately report it to the Department Of Child Protective Services or a local law enforcement agency. The phone number for Pueblo County Child Protective Services is 719-583-6901. If you have any questions or concerns about your child in this program, we want to hear from you. Please contact the Camp Director with any issues and we will make every effort to resolve them. If you feel that the issues are not being addressed you have the right to file a complaint. The Colorado Department of Human Services contact number is 303.866.5700 and is located at 1575 Sherman St, Denver Colorado.

## INCLEMENT WEATHER

All of the Nature & Wildlife Discovery Center's Summer Camp Programs are outdoor-based. Daily programs are held outside, in the event of severe weather the camp will follow these procedures:

- If the weather is extremely hot or cold, all programs will be held in designated indoor spaces.
- Overnight Camp programs may make last-minute changes to trip destinations in the event of inclement weather; all parents/guardians will be notified immediately.
- The director will determine if weather conditions (i.e. rain, cold, heat) require students to remain indoors.
- Our daily schedules are created with shade times, water breaks, and rest periods for the children.
- If the city of Beulah closes for any reason, so will the camps taking place at the Mountain Park Campus.

Program cancelation due to unforeseen circumstances will not be rescheduled and will not be refunded unless conditions exceed three full days.

### **NATURAL DISASTER AND EMERGENCY EVACUATION PLAN**

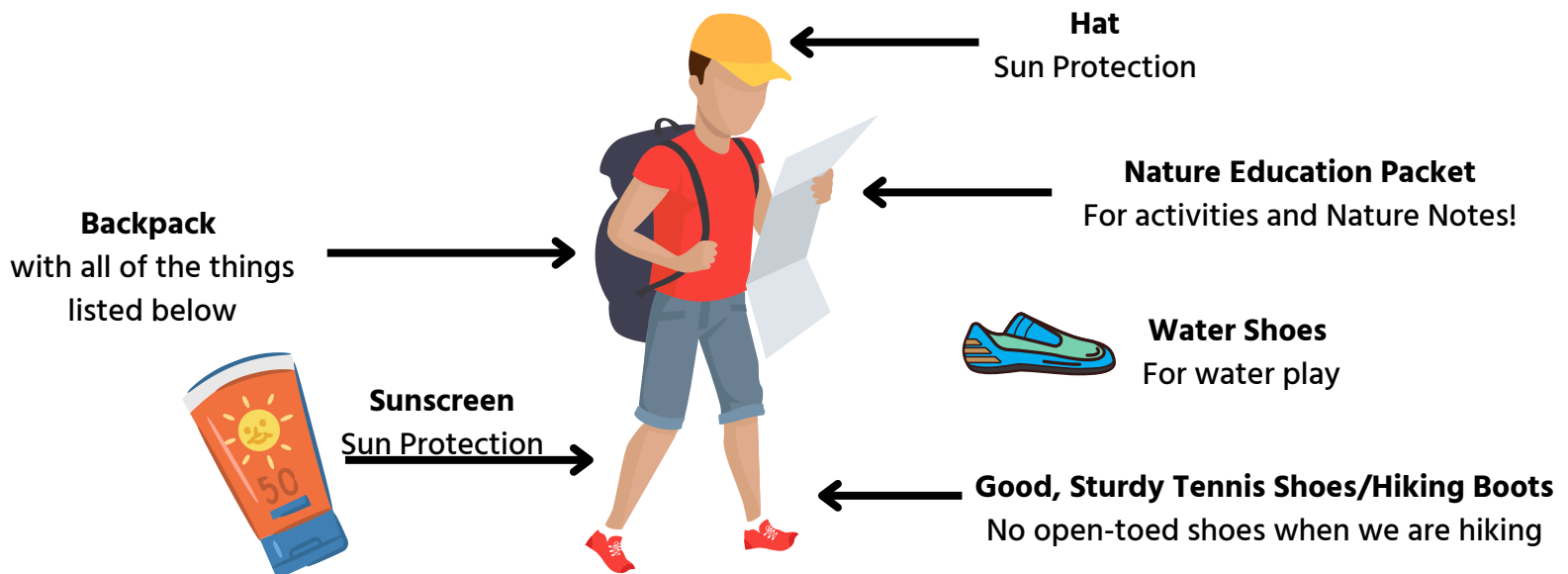
- In the event of any extreme weather conditions or other emergencies, parents/guardians will be notified immediately. Emergency Drills will be held at the beginning of every program to ensure that each child is familiar with the procedures in the event of an emergency.
- For our, off-site camp/overnight programs, any emergency will be handled professionally and calmly under the direction of the location's staff and the program's staff. The NWDC camp staff are required to notify the camp director of any emergency that they experience while on a trip.
- Each camp staff member carries a trip folder with them, which has all of the participant's medical information, the trip itinerary, and emergency contact information. As well as a charged cellphone and individualized trip evacuation information.



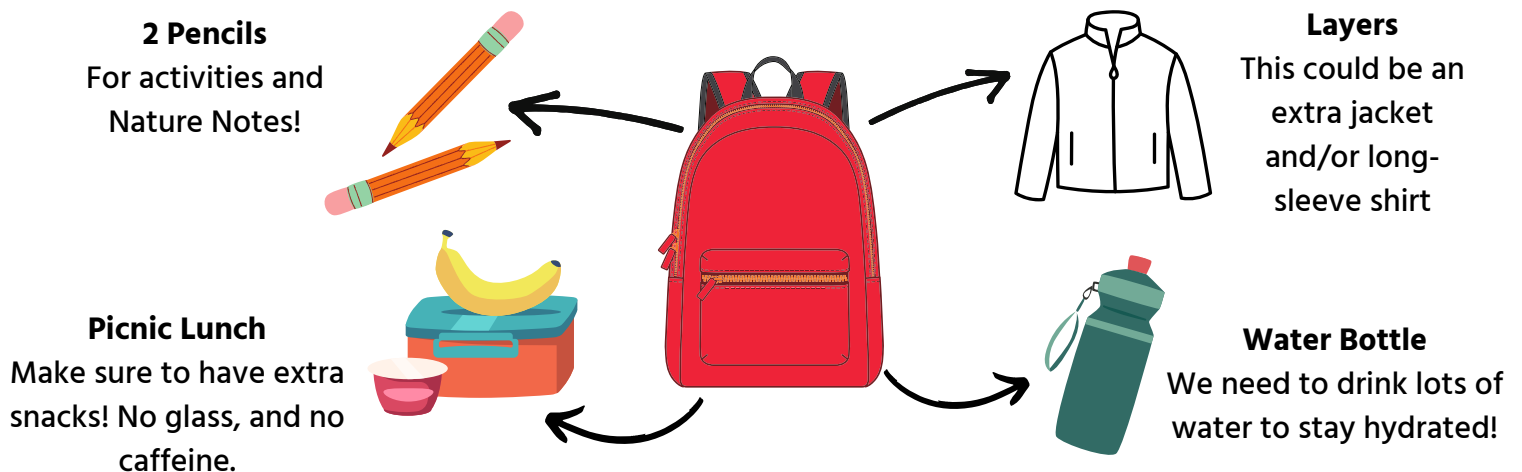
# PREPARING FOR A DAY OUTSIDE: CLOTHING FOR CAMP

All of our camps are outdoor adventure and environmental education camps. Your child will be outdoors for most of the day and will be participating in activities and programs that involve **getting dirty, muddy, and wet**. It is all part of the fun and education so please dress your child accordingly. If you wish to send your child with a change of clothes that is an option.

## What your child should wear to spend a day outside:



## What your child should have in their backpack:



- Hats, backpacks, water bottles, sunscreen, raincoats, and light jackets are all recommended to bring daily to camp (**Please refer to your specific packing list for individual camps**).
- Tennis shoes are required for all camps.
- Our overnight camps may require different clothing options based on the destination. Please see the trip description for clothing and footwear recommendations. We require that each participant come with a refillable water bottle and a snack.

\*If you do not have an item on the recommended checklist please contact our Program Director. NWDC has a library of gear, and we may have the item for your child to borrow during camp with us.



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**PO Box 99 Beulah CO, 81023**

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## COMMUNICATION AND QUESTIONS

Our camp staff will do their best to accommodate your needs. We hope that your child has an exceptional experience at camp!

- You will be emailed the itinerary to your child's camp along with NWDC's emergency contact numbers the week before the start of the camp. You will be notified of any drastic schedule changes.
- If you arrive late to the program and the camp is already in session, please call the office at 719-485-4444 to locate your child's group location.
- If at any time you wish to withdraw your child from the camp, you must call the Program director immediately.
- Parents/guardians will be notified in writing of significant changes in our services, policies, or procedures so that they can decide whether our program continues to meet the needs of the child.
- Every day phone numbers and Emergency phone numbers will be carried with the program staff on all field trips.
- In any situation you can always call or email the Program Director for all questions and concerns. 719-485-4444 [programs@hikeandlearn.org](mailto:programs@hikeandlearn.org)

If you would like to know how your child is doing at camp, we would be happy to set up a meeting with you and their primary camp counselor. Please contact the Program Director to set this up. We will reach out to you to set up a meeting if we are concerned about their behavior.

## Contact



**Noel Zant, NWDC Program Director**  
[programs@hikeandlearn.org](mailto:programs@hikeandlearn.org) | 719-485-4444



**Elise Lokey, NWDC Program Manager**  
[elise@hikeandlearn.org](mailto:elise@hikeandlearn.org) | 719-485-4444







# CAMP AGREEMENT

Parent or Guardian: Please read and review with your camper(s) the following, Camp Agreement. Please sign our handbook acknowledgment form at the bottom of this page to show your intent to support the implementation of this Camp Agreement and all other NWDC policies regarding your camper.

**As a camper attending camp at the Nature and Wildlife Discovery Center, I UNDERSTAND AND AGREE to the Nature Oath & Student Expectations (Listed Below):**

AS A STUDENT OF THE EARTH, I PROMISE TO RESPECT NATURE, OTHER PEOPLE, AND MYSELF AT ALL TIMES. I UNDERSTAND THAT WHEN I VISIT WILD PLACES I AM JUST A VISITOR IN THE HOMES OF THE PLANTS AND ANIMALS WHO LIVE THERE. AS I STUDY NATURE I WILL LEAVE EVERYTHING AS I FIND IT SO I WILL NOT HARM ANYTHING, AND THE PLANTS AND ANIMALS WILL NOT BE DISTURBED BY ME. I WILL NOT BE AFRAID TO GET DIRTY! AND TO LOOK CLOSELY AT NATURE. I WILL CARE FOR THE EARTH SO THE PEOPLE OF THE FUTURE WILL BE ABLE TO ENJOY IT THE SAME AS ME.

## Expectations of Students While They Are at Nature Camp:

- Listen silently when others are talking
- Follow all instructions from rangers
- Always be courteous, cooperative, and Inclusive
- Play safely and use good sportsmanship
- Always stay with the group and rangers. Do not wander off without permission!
- Always Ask a ranger permission when you need to use the bathroom. Use the buddy system.
- Practice Good hygiene. Wash hands frequently. Cough or sneeze into your elbow or tissue.
- Foul language verbal or physical abuse will not be tolerated
- If you wonder or worry about something, ask a ranger!
- Be responsible for all of your belongings
- Wear sunscreen every day, all day!
- Always have a water bottle with you
- Always bring a sack lunch and snack (Day Camps)
- No gum, caffeinated or carbonated drinks, electronics, lighters/ matches or knives allowed
- Always follow the Nature Oath and be respectful to nature, other people, and yourself at all times.
- Most important of all: SAFETY FIRST & HAVE FUN!

**Failure to meet the expectations within this Camp Agreement may result in dismissal from NWDC's programs. If a camper is dismissed, an authorized adult is expected to pick up the camper from NWDC within 1 hour.**

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Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

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Parent/Guardian Signature

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Date